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Nine letter winners boost UM women's cross country team

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NINE LETTER WINNERS BOOST
UM WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

MISSOULA--

Even though it's dominated by sophomores, the University of Montana women's cross country team will not suffer from a lack of experience in 1980. The team has nine letter winners returning from last year, seven of them sophomores.

"Everyone should be a year stronger and a year more experienced," said coach Dick Koontz. "I think we'll be pretty competitive in our region."

Among the returning letter winners are two runners who competed in the AIAW nationals last year as freshmen: Linda Becker, Portland, Ore., and Shelly Thompson, Helena. The trip to the nationals came after Becker finished 12th and Thompson finished 14th in the NCWSA Regionals in Spokane.

Another top runner is junior Bridgette Baker, Fernley, Nev., a two-year letter winner. Last spring, Baker placed 15th in the 10,000 meters at the AIAW National Track and Field Championships in Florida.

Gretchen Goebel, Aberdeen, Wash., another sophomore, was the number one runner on the team for much of last year. But a late-season injury caused her to miss the dual meet with Montana State and the regionals. "With her healthy, we have four very talented cross country runners," said Koontz.

Koontz said junior Julie Glenn, Helena, a two-year letter winner, should give UM a strong fifth spot.

Other returning letter winners are sophomores Mary Reimers, Spokane, Wash.; Jenny Sheey, Helena; Jill Warner, Excelsior, Minn.; and Tana Hasbrouck, Great Falls.

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NINE LETTER WINNERS--add one

Rounding out the roster are two freshmen who were red-shirted last year, Kelly Brendle, Independence, Ore., and Louise Bruce, Littleton, Colo.

Koontz said he expects defending champion Oregon to dominate the region again this year. The Grizzlies will have the advantage of running on their home course for the NCWSA regionals. UM will be the host for that meet on Nov. 1.

The season will open Sept. 20 with the Yellowstone Run at West Yellowstone. Home meets include the UM Invitational Sept. 27 and the UM-MSU dual meet Oct. 24.

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1980 UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY ROSTER

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Bridgette Baker**	Jr.	Fernley, Nev.
Linda Becker*	So.	Portland, Ore.
Kelly Brendle	Fr.	Independence, Ore.
Louise Bruce	Fr.	Littleton, Colo.
Julie Glenn**	Jr.	Helena, Mont.
Gretchen Goebel*	So.	Aberdeen, Wash.
Tana Hasbrouck*	So.	Great Falls, Mont.
Mary Reimers*	So.	Spokane, Wash.
Jenny Sheehy*	So.	Helena, Mont.
Shelly Thompson*	So.	Helena, Mont.
Jill Warner*	So.	Excelsior, Minn.

*letters won

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1980 UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Meet</u>	<u>Place</u>
9-20	Yellowstone Run	West Yellowstone, MT
9-27	UM Invitational (11 a.m.)	UM Golf Course
10-4	Fort Casey Invitational	Whidbey Island, Wash.
10-11	Washington State Inv.	Pullman, Wash.
10-18	Eastern Washington Inv.	Spokane, Wash.
10-24	UM-MSU (4 p.m.)	UM Golf Course
11-1	NCWSA Regionals	UM Golf Course
	Div. 3--11 a.m.	
	Div. 1--12 p.m.	
	Div. 2-- 1 p.m.	
11-15	AIAW Nationals	Seattle, Wash.

All events are 5,100 meters

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